ICF Celebrates Italian Heritage Month

Grand President’s Monthly Message
Andrew Pappani

Now that we are back, rejuvenated and charged up from our Convention, we have time to share with the rest of the members in our Branches all the ideas we came back with. We can start working on new ideas. The Central Council members are ready to begin working with you in your branches to assist you in gaining and retaining members, working with you within your parishes to maintain your Catholic spirit and connection to the church, helping you with our national charities to benefit those in our communities, and training officers in their duties while looking for leadership within your branches. These are only a few areas that we manage through the Central Council Committees. Please feel free to contact the committee chairs with any ideas or concerns that you have, so that we can be of assistance.

October 7th was the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco. The Italian Catholic Federation built a float for the parade, led by Heritage Chairperson Denise Antonowicz. I had an opportunity to participate in this remarkable event. As we were riding down the streets on the float looking at the joy we brought to all the people from every walk of life, young to old, everyone had a bright smile on their face. Marie Antonowicz led the Chicken Dance along the way, and everyone followed along. The Italian Catholic Federation is alive and making a connection with our community.

With officer elections behind us, we look for an uplifting and new optimism for the New Year to gain new members. We will be having an open enrollment for our Hospitalization Plan in 2019. Please plan to join. All ages are welcome to join, but if you are over the age of 70, this will be a particularly special chance to join and enjoy the benefits of the plan which is normally open only to ages below 70.

"Few things in the world are more powerful than a positive push. A smile. A word of optimism and hope. A ‘you can do it’ when things are tough.” - Richard M. DeVos

"Each of us has a vision of good and evil. We have to encourage people to move towards what they think is good…”

Richard Interrante

PR Committee

Members of the ICF celebrate their passion for heritage through participation in various events within their branches, districts, parishes and cities over the course of each year. The month of October was particularly rich with focus on heritage as many members took part in festivities in recognition of National Italian American Heritage and Culture Month. Let’s take a look at four unique events held across the state of California.

Starting in the northern part of the state, on October 7th, a group of ICF members led by Heritage Chair Denise Antonowicz participated in the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco (https://sfitalian-heritage.org). The Parade is organized by a group of volunteer members of the Italian American community in San Francisco who work year after year to keep their traditions alive for future generations. The Parade began at the foot of Jefferson and Powell Streets in Fisherman’s Wharf, and ended in Washington Square in front of Saints Peter and Paul Church. The ICF’s float, #43 in a cast of hundreds, was the best yet thanks to an intrepid crew that braved early morning winds and cold temperatures for afternoon sun and heat to be a part of ICF history again. Denise especially thanks Jim and Maryann Friebel for driving the ICF’s 20 ft float from Hollister and throughout the parade route. She also thanks the best builders and decorators ever: Andy & Sid Pappani, Franklyn Lopes, Jr, Lisa Crudo, Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan, Leonard Rossi, Russ & Louise Vento, Dante Galeauzzi, and of course, her family, Michelle, Germane and last, but not least her Mom, Marie, who dressed like a chicken and did the Chicken Dance for 2.5 hours at 95 years young!

Clockwise from upper left: (1) Volunteers on ICF float at the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco (Oct 7, 2018); (2) Members of American Martyrs Branch 447, Manhattan Beach, CA, supporting Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) 10th Annual Taste of Italy event (Oct 13, 2018); (3) Italian-American Heritage Month Celebration held at LA City Hall, with members attending from St. John Joseph of the Cross Branch 115, San Pedro, CA (Oct 12, 2018); and (4) Queen and Court from Our Lady of the Rosary’s 10th Annual Festa procession to the San Diego waterfront, led by Branch 230 (Oct 7, 2018)
**The Power of Prayer**

**Monsignor Daniel Cardelli**

ICF Spiritual Director

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**Teresa** came to our parish when she was a little girl about seven years old. She graduated from our parish school and ultimately Carondelet High School. After college, she became a teacher in our parish school from where she herself graduated. She met Jim, her husband. I performed her marriage within a Nuptial Mass. Seven years later she and Jim came to see me. She was in tears - copious tears. They wanted to have children and she couldn’t get pregnant. I was in a quandary. I didn’t know what to do. Eventually, I pulled out the Book of Blessings. Although there wasn’t a special blessing for a woman to become pregnant, there was one for mothers. I adapted that blessing as a prayer for a woman desiring to become a mother.

The following Palm Sunday, she came up to me after Mass with a big smile on her face. I said, “You don’t have to tell me, you’re pregnant!” She said, “YES! And with twins!” Within the next year or so, she had another baby. And then, can you believe it, the following year or so she had another set of twins. All girls.

Once the word got out, some of Teresa’s friends came to me for a blessing so they could have a baby. I did and they did! At the reception of the baptism of the last set of twins, I spoke to a young mother who looked familiar. I said, “Didn’t I give you a blessing to have a baby?” “Yes!” she said, and I asked, “Do you want another blessing.” “NO!” she said without any hesitation.

Thanksgiving took on a new meaning for Teresa and her husband, Jim. They have five beautiful girls as proof that the power of prayer is strong and wonderful.

In your life, has the power of prayer helped you in an amazing way? Does it make your Thanksgiving Day extra special? Think about it! It has for me.

---

Grand President

Continued from Page 1

Everyone has his own idea of good and evil and must choose to follow the good and fight the evil as he conceives them. That would be enough to make the world a better place.” - Pope Francis

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

Andrew J Pappani

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**2018-2019 Central Council Contact and Committee Information**

Listed below are email addresses for the current Central Council Members. Their email address will apply for all current positions held by the Central Council Members including any Central Council committee chairmanship positions indicated.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Committee(s) Chaired</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Denise Antonowicz</td>
<td>Finance, Heritage</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dantonowicz@icf.org">dantonowicz@icf.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Basuino</td>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbasuino@icf.org">rbasuino@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>David Botta</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monsignor Daniel Cardelli</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcardelli@icf.org">dcardelli@icf.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Crudo</td>
<td>Hospitalization</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lcrudo@icf.org">lcrudo@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Jane Dianda</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:idianda@icf.org">idianda@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Steve Fuentes</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sfuentes@icf.org">sfuentes@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Dante Galeazzi</td>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgaleazzi@icf.org">dgaleazzi@icf.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Theresa Helfand</td>
<td>Gifts of Love</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thelfand@icf.org">thelfand@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Roselyinne Jarrett</td>
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<td>Lauren Kilcullen</td>
<td>Apostolate/Charity, Workshop</td>
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<td>Pat Mages</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kmarshall@icf.org">kmarshall@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Andy Pappani</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:apappani@icf.org">apappani@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Vince Piro</td>
<td>Mentor, Task Force</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vpiro@icf.org">vpiro@icf.org</a></td>
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<td>Leonard Rossi</td>
<td>By-Laws and Ritual, Expansion</td>
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<td>Leonard Zasoski, Jr.</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lzasoski@icf.org">lzasoski@icf.org</a></td>
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Heritage Month
Continued from Page 1

Moving down to the southern end of the state, Branch 230 in San Diego celebrated their heritage through participation in Our Lady of the Rosary's 10th Annual Festa on October 7th, in honor of our Virgin Mother Mary. To enrich the religious and cultural aspect of worship at OLR, the late Father Steven Grancincci instituted the Annual Festa held on the first Sunday in October, uniting several Marian Societies to celebrate and honor the Blessed Mother. The festivities are sponsored by the Societa del Santa Rosario, the Societies of Madonna del Addolorata, Madonna del Lume, and Madonna del Paradiso, Italian Catholic Federation Branch 230, The OLR Guild, and OLR parishioners. This year the 10th Annual Festa celebration was a truly spectacular event, highlighted by an outdoor Mass presided over by Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan, concelebrated with ICF San Diego Diocesan Chaplain Father Joe, Father Louie, Father Albino and Deacon Steven. Last year Branch 230 incorporated their first Queen Yssabela Saab and Her Court. This year the court, consisting of Queen Haley Blue, Princesses Megan Sgalio, Winifred Lacona, Amelia Cassidy, Crown Prince Evan Shoemaker, Princes Jameson Cassidy, Tristan Vigili, and Flower Girl Addison Cassidy and last year's Queen, beautifully attired were honored to lead the street procession while reciting the Rosary through the streets of Little Italy to San Diego's waterfront and Embarcadero. The vessels moored there were blessed, followed by a display of fireworks over the ocean and procession back to Our Lady of the Rosary. After the veneration of the Eucharist there was a release of doves followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. This Festa is the largest of its kind in the San Diego region.

Turning our attention north of San Diego to downtown Los Angeles, on October 12th, St. John Joseph of the Cross Branch 115 from San Pedro joined other members of the Italian American community for the 2018 Italian-American Heritage Month Celebration, held at LA City Hall and led by City Councilman Joe Buscaino. The councilman, a first-generation Italian American and native of San Pedro, provided buses for the event which allowed many members from the branch and district to attend. With the Los Angeles area having the 5th largest community of Italian American residents in the U.S., Councilman Buscaino updated attendees on his motion to have a section of San Pedro named Historic Little Italy. Several families were also honored with Italian Spirit Awards for their contributions to business and involvement in the community. A delicious dinner reception was held after the presentation. (See https://www.facebook.com/JoeBuscaino/videos/547459219032259/ for a video of the event.)

Finally, members from American Martyrs Branch 447 in Manhattan Beach, CA, joined supporters of the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAML) in another event in downtown Los Angeles -- the 10th Annual Taste of Italy, held on October 13th. This fun event was held in a historical setting near the museum under the stars outside Pico House, the first three story building and first grand hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Taste of Italy features Italian food and wine from award-winning restaurants and wineries, and draws over 2,500 attendees each year, including dignitaries, civic leaders and celebrities. Proceeds from Taste of Italy support educational programming and other initiatives related to the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles' mission. (Learn more about IAML and the annual Taste of Italy event at http://italians.org/)

These only represent a small sample of events in the state of California that members participated in this year. Members in other cities and states including Arizona, Illinois, and Nevada participate in many more of course, and we look forward to featuring them in a future issue.

We welcome you to reach out to the editor about your involvement in heritage events unique to your region, so we might include a description of them for other members to enjoy.

(Thanks to members Denise Antonowicz, Stephanie DeRaddo, Luanne Janacci Donahue, John Sgalio, Anita Gioiello Trujillo and Patrizia Vigili for their valuable contributions to this article.)

Cabrini Pilgrimage Event to Feature Film About ICF Patron Saint

Carmelo Sabatella
LA Archdiocese District

Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, a co-patron saint of the Italian Catholic Federation, was born in Sant'Angelo Lodigiano in the province of Lombardy, northern Italy, on July 15, 1850. She was a major benefactor for Italian immigrants in the U.S., and the first naturalized US citizen to be declared a saint (July 7, 1946).

In 1916 Mother Cabrini built a small chapel in honor of the Blessed Mother atop Mount Raphel, for the residents of the San Fernando Valley. She made daily mediation visits to the chapel.

For decades, the chapel attracted thousands of pilgrims who made the steep climb every December to honor Mother Cabrini. In 1973, the chapel was moved down the mountain to St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank where it was restored.

In keeping with tradition, a special Mass honoring Mother Cabrini along with a Pilgrimage to the Mother Cabrini Shrine are held on the first Sunday in December of each year, featuring a procession to the Shrine which begins at St. Francis Xavier Church.

This year's Pilgrimage will be held on December 2, 2018. The Pilgrimage will be followed by a Mass and Benediction at the Chapel, ending with lunch in the Saint Francis Xavier Church Parish Hall.

As a special addition this year, we will be celebrating Mother Cabrini by presenting the latest film about her life entitled, “Frances Xavier Cabrini: The People's Saint." (www.mothercabrinifilm.com)

Filmmaker Lucia Mauro presents a living portrait of the Italy-born saint that showcases her reverence for an ever-changing world. The Patron Saint of Immigrants and Hospital Administrators is explored as a fearless, roll-up-her-sleeves woman who, despite frail health, traveled the world at the turn of the 20th century to serve the less fortunate. It shows the environment in Lombardy, Italy that shaped her compassionate vision and includes interviews with individuals from all walks of life, who carry on Mother Cabrini's work today as the needs of immigrants and other populations continue to evolve.

Director Lucia Mauro will introduce her film and answer questions in English and Italian after the viewing. DVDs of the film will also be available for purchase.

The Cabrini Chapel Gift Shop will also have new gift items from the Cabrini Shrine Gift Shop in New York.

The LA Archdiocese District thanks all ICF Branches who were able to donate funds in support of the Cabrini Chapel this year and hopes they will continue, and that other Branches will also be able to contribute through a special collection or fundraiser allowing the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library to be maintained for future generations to enjoy.

Members that have memorabilia from Mother Cabrini or her former Cabrini facilities and would like to include them in the Cabrini Library/Museum; or would like to help the Mother Cabrini Chapel by volunteering their time or by making a financial contribution, please call Carmelo at (626) 372-7812 or mail your donation(s) to:

ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library
3801 Scott Road
Burbank, CA 91504
Attn: Carmelo Sabatella, President
Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

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Get Well Wishes:
Guy Francoz  Officers/Members of Br. 161

Congratulations - 2018 Grand President's Award Recipient:
Jo Bertaccini  Mike and Marcie Rossi

Happy Birthday:
Fr. George Aranha  Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

Happy 95th Birthday:
Marie Antonowicz  Mary Rossetto

In Support of the Providenza Fund:
A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by the I.C.F. Spouses Association
A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Br. 227 - Capitola

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members' donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.

Scholarship Donations

RECEIVED AS OF OCT 16, 2018:

1st Year
Sam and Judy Bozzo
In memory of Laura Angelino
Officers/Members of Br. 435
Aldine Grisenti
Get well wishes for Ed Bertaccini

2nd - 4th Year
Aldine Grisenti
In honor of the 80th birthday of Liz Donaldson

Gifts of Love Donations

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Welcome to Our New Members! (as of 10/14/18)

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2018-2019 Central Council Officers and Members

OFFICERS:

Grand President
Andrew Pappani* (Siria), Br. 28
Grand 1st Vice President
Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39
Grand 2nd Vice President
Deborah Rodondi, Br. 19
Grand Secretary
Lauren Kicullen, Br. 52
Grand Treasurer
Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
Grand Parliamentarian
Mike Rossi, O.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 39
Grand Trustee
Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139
Grand Trustee
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227
Grand Trustee
Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380
Grand Sentinel
Teresa Helfand ( Cory), Br. 392
Past Grand President
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.* ( Betty), Br. 281
Spiritual Director
Rev. Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, Br. 352

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Robert Basuino*, Br. 191
David Botta* (Pat), Br. 14
Lisa Crudo, Br. 343
Jane Dianda*, Br. 91

*denotes life member
(Revised 9/18)

Interested in learning more about the ICF’s National Charity, Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia)? If so, Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Program Consultant for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your branch meetings or any special event.

Contact Information:
(360) 860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com
It does not matter how small or how large your branch is, the goal is to educate everyone on Cooley’s Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

October Calendar Winners

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<td>Fr. Johnson Abraham</td>
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<td>Michael Federico</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Paso Robles, CA</td>
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Bishops’ Days

Nov. 4th  San Diego
Nov. 11th  LA Archdiocese
Dec. 9th   Reno
Jan. 19th  Tucson
Feb. 23rd  Orange
Apr. 28th  San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin
Jun. 23rd  Stockton

District Installations

Jan. 5th  Santa Clara Valley
Jan. 6th  Stockton
Jan. 19th  Tucson
Jan. 20th  East Bay
Jan. 27th  LA Archdiocese San Diego
Feb. 23rd  Central Coast Orange
Memming Monsignor James J. Loughnane, P.A.

Pat Mages
Membership Chair

Greetings from the Membership Committee. Once again at this time of year, our branches are electing new officers for the coming year. With these elections come the anticipation of a successful new year including membership growth. Not only does growth mean new members, but keeping current members feeling connected with the Branch and the Archdiocese can provide the foundation to share this story and perhaps spread the word to others.

With that in mind, you may consider adding dinner or refreshments to your next monthly meeting. Whether it’s a potluck, member-cooked meal or catered, good food helps make for a fun event. Also, consider simple decorations that can be re-used every year to create a welcoming environment.

Example meeting themes:

- **January:** New Year’s Party and Live Auction Night - members bring items for auction table. A Night of Magic or Comedy - invite local magician or members bring in favorite jokes.
- **February:** Carnevale presentation showing best costumes in Venice and history of Carnevale. “Love Your Neighbor” - invite a few local charities to talk about how they help others.
- **March:** Easter Service Project - members prepare Easter baskets for needy children. Genealogy Speaker - invite volunteer from local library or college to present.
- **April:** A Night at the Opera - contact local opera group to present about Italian Opera. Celebrating our Heritage - invite members to bring in items/food representing their culture.
- **May:** Honoring our Saints - speaker or movie on a saint, pray Rosary together. Cinco de Mayo - invite ballet folklorico dancers or high school mariachi band to perform.
- **June:** Old-Fashioned Picnic - meet at local park, barbecue, and games for the kids. Sports Night - jerseys, and sports trivia, show video of sports bloopers.
- **July:** Summer Break
- **August:** Restaurant Night - members meet at a local restaurant that donates a percent back to branch. Back to School - members bring supplies for parish school, invite Principal to talk about school.
- **September:** Vocations Awareness - invite parish priest, deacon or sister to talk about their vocation. Music Appreciation - invite parish or school choir to perform.
- **October:** Italian Heritage Month - guest speaker on Italy or Italian entertainment. HalloWine - members bring a bottle of wine for tasting table, speaker on wine-making.
- **November:** Happy Thanks & Giving - members share things they’re thankful for, bring donated canned goods. Veteran’s Day Recognition - honor members who have served and they can share their experience.
- **December:** Christmas Party - Church choir singing carols, crafts for children, visit from Santa.

You can find additional ideas in the Members’ Area of the ICF website (https://www.icf.org/membership/members/) under the Membership Growth section, and of course from the monthly branch articles found in the Bollettino. The articles are a great resource for finding out what works in other branches.

Your monthly meeting is an opportunity to impress your members and guests. If they have a great experience, they may decide to return and spread the word to others.

May you have a Blessed and Bountiful Thanksgiving, and great success in 2019!
Family Recipes
Deborah Rodondi
Grand 2nd Vice President

It is already that time of the year preparing for the holiday season. For me, that means baking all my specialty cookies. One of my (and my mom’s) favorites is the ginger snap. This recipe came from my maternal grandmother’s sister Virginia Bonalanza and her good friend Val Grasso, who was a member of Branch 7 in South San Francisco. This year at the San Mateo District Chaplains Night you will find these cookies on the dessert platter. Hope you enjoy them!

Ginger Cookies
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 Tbsp. molasses
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. ginger (maybe a little more)
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- I also add at least 1 Tbls. crystallized ginger minced
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ cup sugar (for dipping cookie dough)

Mix oil and sugar thoroughly. Add egg and dry ingredients together and add to mixture. Drop teaspoonfuls of dough (dime to nickel size) into sugar and roll into balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet 3 inches apart. Bake in 325 to 350 degree oven for 15 minutes. Do not overbake.

NOTE: The crystallized ginger really gives a punch to these cookies. I buy mine at the local Asian grocery store. It will also last a few years in a cool place properly sealed. The crystallized ginger gives the cookie that element of surprise when you bite into it.

If you recall, I make my cookies on the small size. When you are making a variety of cookies everyone likes to sample all of them, so by making them on the small size it affords the opportunity to try several.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF.

Send them to me at drodondi@icf.org or mail to the ICF office. Include a story if any. If you have questions, send them also. I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Buon Appetito!

Literature Review: Reno's Italian-American Culture

Vince Piro
Grand 1st Vice President

Earlier this month, my wife and I travelled to Reno for their annual Great Italian Festival. It was full of great food, music, and ICF members. It reminded me that in the past I had reviewed some interesting pieces on Italian-American culture in Reno. Here is a reprint of that article.

I found some very interesting resources about the Italian immigrants and their families that helped develop the city of Reno and surrounding areas. Italian Americans were and are hard working, industrious, and entrepreneurial, contributing much to Northwest Nevada.

“Reno’s Italian Americans”
Online Nevada Encyclopedia

Andrew Gerthoffer (contributor)

Andrew Gerthoffer gives a very thorough overview of Italian immigrants and their descendants in his article for the Online Nevada Encyclopedia. Italian Americans have had a presence in the Reno area for over 150 years. Attracted to a climate similar to that of northern Italy, plentiful jobs and land, Italians originally immigrated to the area and worked developing the Transcontinental Railroad; however, they quickly began working in shops, on ranches, and at lumber yards. Most were single men living in boarding houses. However, over time, chain migration created a more vibrant Italian American community with families and friends living “in distinctive ethnic neighborhoods.” Basically, “Three major Italian areas developed in the Truckee Meadows starting in the late nineteenth and continuing throughout the twentieth century.” These neighborhoods were distinguished by class and social differences, representing different levels of achievement. One interesting fact is that Italian Americans became noted for building Craftsman style homes. Italian Americans in the area preferred this style of home because of its efficient use of lot space, its simple design and construction, and the inexpensive nature of the required building materials.” Often, neighbors would share house plans, saving on the cost of having to purchase their own plans. As Italian Americans prospered they began to own some of the more popular businesses in town, including “The Eldorado Hotel and Casino, the Mizpah Hotel, the Sportsman, First National Bank of Nevada, and Pioneer Citizens Bank.” And these Italian-owned businesses employed other Italians. The Dainty Cake Shop and Pinky’s Market were among the most famous Italian-owned and Italian run businesses in town. Besides their influence on businesses in the area, Italian Americans also influenced the leisure time activities of the area, with wine making, vegetable gardening, and, of course, bocce ball competitions. According to Gerthoffer, Italians and their descendants have had a significant and unique impact on Reno and the surrounding area. You can find Gerthoffer’s article at http://www.onlinenevada.org/reno_s_italian_americans.

“The American Dream, Reno’s Little Italy in Powning Addition”

Historic Reno Preservation Society
Felvia Belaustegui

Felvia Belaustegui has done much to preserve the history of Italian Americans in Reno. As part of her studies, she has written a masters thesis on the subject, The Evolution of an Ethnic Community-Immigration of Italians to Reno, contributed articles on the subject to various magazines, and served as president of the Historic Reno Preservation Society. Her article “The American Dream, Reno’s Little Italy in Powning Addition” appears online and features different Italian Americans from this district in Reno. In this article, she profiles several Italian American families, such as the Pizorno family. Among the accomplishments of the family, she notes that “Virginia Pizorno and another sister, Mary Romano, were two of the first Italian immigrant women to have a successful business in the downtown area of Reno, the Dainty Cake Bakery.” She also writes about Chapo Ciciochio and his family founders and owners of Reno Ironworks, and Devincenzi, the first Italian to work as police officer for the city. “He eventually purchased Eddie Floral Shop . . . buying special seeds from Holland and other European countries to sell to Italian farmers in the area. An interesting character is Antonio Minetto, who came to Reno in 1902 and resided on Winter Street, became a ‘marriage broker.’ His marriage brokering started because he had several poor nieces in Utbe, Italy who needed husbands. He would look over prospective grooms and then send for one of his nieces.” Belaustegui notes that these and other Italian Americans worked hard and represent the achievement of the American dream. You can find Belaustegui’s article at http://www.historicreno.org/index.php/footprints/featured-articles/the-american-dream-renos-little-italy-in-powning-addition.

Oral History Program
University of Nevada

The Oral History Program of the University of Nevada features interviews with many Italian Americans, including some prominent ICF members. These Italian Americans, including Robert Capurro, recount their experiences during World War II and other times. Robert was born in Reno into an Italian-American family and was a young boy during World War II. During a 2005 interview, he remembers, “In Reno I don’t think the restrictions on Italian-Americans during the war were very stringent . . . We were non-strategic here. I mean, there was nothing we could do to either help or hinder the war effort, and we lived our own lives, so there were no restrictions on us.”
Order Your New ICF Brochures

A beautiful new ICF brochure is available now for use by all branches. This is a great marketing tool to distribute to guests at monthly membership meetings, information tables at branch events, and for membership drives. On the inside of the brochure, there is a reserved area to place your branch contact information. Please contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 to have brochures sent to your branch.

Literature Review

Continued from Page 7

no restrictions that I know of." Other Italian Americans recount different experiences and events during the early part of the 20th century. This is a wonderful site to read about and listen to Italian Americans from the Reno area. You can search the University of Nevada, Reno oral history site at http://oralhistory.unr.edu.

These online articles and interviews are good places to start learning about the Italian Americans of Reno. Italian Americans contributed much to the settlement and development of the Reno area.

Additional Resources: You can further explore Italian Americans in Reno with the following resources.


Msgr. Loughnane

Continued from Page 6

wrote, “that I can think of no other priest in the Archdiocese as is Msgr. Jim.” (letter to Msgr. Jim on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee, June 18, 2011)

From his nephew and niece, Vince and Deirdre, here in Southern California he was always a loving and fun Uncle Jim, “UJ” as they called him. He always made the special trips to every part of the world to celebrate First Communions, Confirmations, Graduations, Marriages and all of their milestones at a moment’s notice.

“Uncle Jim” was a smart man with a very strong work ethic.

He didn’t go out of his way to be liked, he was too shy and reserved for that. Instead, he rolled up his sleeves, took on the difficult jobs without fanfare, and people came to love him over time.

We were very fortunate to have him in our lives. He is survived by four brothers and three sisters, their spouses, 17 nieces and nephews, and 25 grandnieces and grand-nephews.

With the hopes of accommodating the growing needs for the many ministries and organizations at St. Denis, Msgr. Jim was in the midst of realizing the building of a new parish center. The Building on Faith Campaign is near and dear to his heart and gives witness to his faith in God’s providence and the St. Denis Community’s response to the call.

Msgr. Jim’s parish family at St. Denis and the Loughnane families will miss him dearly.

We will remember him as a man, a brother priest, an uncle, and friend who humbly served Jesus, our Church, and our Archdiocese.

May God Love You Msgr. Jim.
In Thanksgiving for Blood

Laurice Levine  
Live to Give Committee

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” ~Aesop

Gratitude is an important part of our daily lives, however during this season of gratitude it is especially important to give thanks. The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to say “Thank You” to the ICF Members and friends who have donated blood during our annual convention blood drives. The following are numbers from our 7 blood drives:

<table>
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<th>Units Collected</th>
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<td>26</td>
</tr>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>37</td>
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A total of 222 people have shown up to donate blood and 202 units of blood have been collected. You may be wondering why there is a discrepancy in these numbers. When a person shows up to donate blood, despite their best intentions, they may be turned away. Reasons for being deferred could be that the person has high blood pressure or has traveled to a specific country, such as Africa, where malaria is prevalent. Alternatively, other people are able to give two units of blood at one time.

1. **Red Blood Cells** give the body energy by carrying oxygen to all parts of the body. They are needed most for patients who have significant blood loss from trauma, who are undergoing or have a hemoglobinopathy such as Cooley’s Anemia.

2. **Platelets** are essential for blood clotting and with a shelf life of only five days, are routinely needed to support cancer therapy. People who are undergoing bone marrow transplants or having an organ transplant also require platelets.

3. **Plasma** is the liquid portion of the blood and is used to treat patients in shock and those with severe burns and clotting disorders.

Grand President Andy Pappani was one of 41 donors who showed up at the 2018 convention blood drive.

202 units of blood have been collected at the ICF convention blood drives which means 606 lives have been saved due to ICF’s efforts.

The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to ICF blood donors who have selflessly given the gift of life.

Interested in Planning a Blood Drive?

Please contact:
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.  
Central Council Member/  
Live to Give Committee Chair  
Flopes@icf.org  
or  
Laurice Levine  
Medical Consultant/  
Live to Give Committee Member  
LLevine430@aol.com

Have You Purchased Your 2019 ICF Calendar Yet?

Reasons to Consider Buying an ICF Calendar:

- This calendar is an annual project of the Ways and Means Committee and provides funding for many ICF programs throughout the year.
- The theme for 2019 is “Festas Around the World,” with fun and informative descriptions and photos of each festa, and recipes provided each month.
- They make great gifts and great raffle prizes.
- Calendars are only $25, and branches get to keep $5 from every calendar sold.
- There is a prize drawing for every day each month and the individual or branch whose name is drawn wins between $30 to $100, making 365 winners for the year. The name drawn goes back in the drawing immediately for the next day.
- Over 4,100 people have won since this effort began, with a grand total of $12,400 to be awarded in 2019 alone.

At your next general meeting, please talk to one of your branch officers to learn more!
Chicago
River Forest
St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

Fall is a busy time for us at Branch 358. On October 14th we held our annual bake sale in the vestibule of St. Vincent Ferrer. Parishioners offered a wide variety of Italian delicacies, fall favorites, and all-American favorites. Proceeds from our bake sale will fund our St. Joseph Table next March. Proceeds from the St. Joseph Table will be distributed to charities in our community.

After the sale, we adjourned to the Cabrini Room for our monthly meeting with lunch served by our very own favorite caterer, Linda Calabrese of A-Theme Catering, with help from her husband, Paul.

On November 18 we will celebrate our Mother Cabrini Mass at Casa Italia and on November 20 we will have our annual Mass for our deceased members.

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. We have so much to be thankful for living in AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL. Let us not forget those who need our prayers: the sick, poor, aged, hungry, alone and homeless, and victims of disasters.

Remember our military men and women who are in foreign lands, this Thanksgiving, to keep us safe in the land of the free and the home of the brave. Say a prayer and be thankful for veterans who served in previous wars and were lucky enough to return; and for those who didn’t return or returned with physical and mental scars.

November Birthdays
Nov 11 - John Corcoran
Nov 8 - Elaine Dato
Nov 16 - Sam Occhipinti
Nov 22 - Yours Truly, Barbara Capozzoli

HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND GOD BLESS US ALL!

Fresno
Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

The meeting in September was held on the 11th and President Jim Cavallero provided a special tribute to the victims of 9/11. The dinner included hamburgers with all the fixins’, potato salad, beans, chips and fresh fruit for dessert. Many thanks to members Marcia and Jennifer Valorosi for donating the tomatoes, onions and watermelon. Thanks to the September committee, chairmen: Jim and Kerin Cavallero and the committee: Mary and Mike Keitz (thanks Mike for barbequing all those burgers), and Celeste Voylees. New members Steven and Lori Combs were sworn in during the meeting. Let’s give a great big ICF welcome to them and to Louis and Rosemary Janis who transferred from Branch 191.

The annual Harvest Festival was held on the 21st & 22nd of September and Branch 27 held their traditional salami spin. The event was well-attended and we almost ran out of salami as everyone who stopped by tried to win. All money raised was given back to Saint Joachim Church. The next meeting is the November dinner on the 13th.

Other upcoming events are the Christmas Party on December 9th and a fun day at Good Company Players in January to see “Mama Mia.” The date is TBD. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members. Please say a special prayer for Theresa DeFrank on the death of her sister and Frank Brunoli on the death of his sister.

Ciao,
Kerin Cavallero

Br. 27 new members Steven and Lori Combs and President Jim Cavallero

Fresno
Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Look for membership renewal envelopes which will be going out in December. This is an opportunity to take advantage of the open enrollment for hospitalization. The ICF hospitalization plan is open to any member, including those members who are over 70. The cost is $25 for the year.

After our meeting in September, we played the candy bar game. We had 5 minutes to take turns rolling the dice. If you rolled doubles, you won a candy bar or you could steal from other players who had already won. It was exciting and fun.

This year’s scholarships were awarded to Jonelle Gilardi from Los Banos ($500 second year, who is attending Chico State University) and Brandon Volpa from Fresno ($600 third year, who is attending UC Irvine). Congratulations to them.

October 28 was Bishop’s Day which was held at St. Anne’s Chapel. Following the Mass there was a luncheon in which the Bishop was presented with a spiritual bouquet and monetary donations for his semiannual endowment fund.

Hope to see you at our next meeting. Remember, our meetings have moved to the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!
Paulette Volpa, Financial Secretary

Bakersfield
San Luigi, Br. 33

Branch 33, Bakersfield, celebrated Columbus Day with an authentic Italian dinner prepared by members Maria Bertoluci, Paulette Volpa, and Michael Brancato. The slate of officers was presented and approved for 2019.

Joining together with Branch 281, we enjoyed a great evening of “horse racing” with the fundraiser “Nite at the Races.” Participants could purchase a horse, pick fun names for the stables and jockey, and bet on their favorites that evening. All this, and a delicious dinner as well.

November is the month to vote on our Christmas project, which has in the past been donations of socks and sweatshirts to our local St. Vincent de Paul.

Blessed Thanksgiving wishes to our fellow Branches!

Merced
St. Cecilia, Br. 39

At our September meeting, first-time delegate Sr. Rachel described her experience at the convention. Our own Vince Piro was elected to the Central Council as First Vice President. Congratulations Vince! Thank you for all the time, hard work and dedication you put in to our worthwhile organization. We initiated several new members.

At our November meeting we enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving feast thanks to Maryellen Mazzei and her kitchen crew. Our 2019 elected officers are: president-Terrie Rhodes; 1st vice-Michael Belluomini; 2nd vice-Chris Martin; recording secretary-Sandy DeReal; financial secretary-Robyn Piro; treasurer-Stephanie Lucich; trustees-Anne Marie Bandoni, Pattie Simas and Gina Pugliese; Sentinel-Carol Salmeri; and Chaplain-Sr. Rachel.

Congratulations to Elmer Lorenzi on being honored at the recent Catholic Charities banquet, recognizing his immeasurable contributions to our community and local charity.

Join us in December for our joint Christmas party with the Lodge members. Details to follow in our newsletter.

There are still a few Grazie America! From Italy to Merced County books available to buy at the Courthouse Museum.

Pray for a full recovery for Carol Salmieri who had recent knee surgery and for Blanche Unti who had hip replacement surgery. And pray for the family of longtime member Ray Giampaoli who passed away recently.

The 2019 ICF calendars are hot off the press and ready for purchasing. Goditi il fresco clima autunnale. Enjoy the cool autumn weather.

Stephanie Lucich

Gustine
Our Lady of Pettoruto, Br. 54

Greetings from Branch 54 in Gustine. We hope this article finds everyone well. Branch 54 was represented recently in the local high school homecoming parade. President Diane Rebello is pictured along-
side the car all decked out in Gustine Reds spirit. Our branch enjoys getting involved in the community and participating in local events. With the Christmas season fast approaching, you might see ICF members out and about more often. Keep your eyes open. Until next time remember to keep love in your hearts, spread the kindness, and do as Jesus would have done.

Ciao!  
Regina Chavez

Clovis  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

These Fall days have been busy for our Branch. In September we sold over 300 meatball sandwiches at the annual Church festival; the first of this month we had a nice turn-out for our quarterly Mass for our living and deceased members; October 28 is the Bishop’s Seminary Burse with Mass and dinner; and now we’re gearing up for our annual Rigatoni Dinner November 11.

Flora DePasquale, Jennie Campopiano, Isabel Ronzano and Betty Massa danced the Tarantella at the Monrovia Winery in September.  
The Ronzano family had a Musto/Ronzano reunion before the St. Elia Celebration in September.

Shirley Mitchell returned from her trip to the British Isles. She visited many castles and islands. She said that Scotland was very beautiful.

Flora DePasquale is a proud great-grandmother. Captain Joseph and Bernice DeLuca gave birth to a boy in August in North Carolina. Another grandson, Capine Marc DeLuca, is a Chaplain stationed in Afghanistan.

Frank Pimentel is a proud great-grandparent to 10 great grandchildren.

Happy Birthday to: Rachel Bejarano (11/16); Sylvia Dalton (11/24); Cindy Newton (11/5); John Rainaldi (11/2); and Rich Zaranini (11/20).

“Sincerely giving thanks not only helps us recognize our blessings, but it also un-locks the doors of Heaven and helps us feel God’s love” (Thomas S. Monson)  
Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Ciao!  
LeAnne Lavagnino

Los Angeles  
Archdiocese  
District Council

The District held officer elections at the quarterly General Meeting, October 27. Congratulations to the newly elected officers and thank you for volunteering your time. The meeting held at the San Antonio Winery was followed by a delicious lunch at the winery.

The next three months are busy months for the District and our members. To make it easier to read I’ll itemize the events.

- November 11, 2018, 11:00 am: Annual Bishop’s Mass & Luncheon celebrated at St. John’s Seminary, Camarillo. For information call Pat (805) 428-4623.
- December 2, 2018, 12:30 pm: Cabrini Pilgrimage, St. Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. Mass will be outside at the Cabrini Chapel, with lunch in the hall and a special film presentation. Carmelo (626) 372-7812 or cas1819@aol.com.
- December 7, 2018, 7:00 pm: Annual ICF Thalassemia Christmas Party at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. All are welcome to participate. Contact Pat (805) 428-4623.
- January 27, 2019, 11:00 am: District and Branch Officer Installation, St. Peter’s Italian Catholic Church, Los Angeles, followed by lunch at Casa Italiana. Contact Pat (805) 428-4623.
- February 23, 2019: District Quarterly General Meeting. Time and Location TBA.

May everyone have a Blessed & Happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

Pat

Los Angeles  
St. Peter, Br. 67

Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and reach out to all ICF members, the Italian community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call (626) 372-7812 for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) Mass and join St. Peter parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each month this year. Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella  
President Branch 67

South Pasadena  
Holy Family, Br. 108

Branch Officers wish all members a very happy holiday season with family and friends this Thanksgiving.

Thank you to members who staffed and supported this year's ICF Sausage Booth at the Holy Family Church Fair. The weather was perfect. Parishioners were supportive while enjoying traditional Italian sausages and pasta with bell peppers and onions. Food was sold out again with another successful year.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers, that they may reach a speedy recovery. And to our former branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward, may they rest in peace.

See you at the Cabrini Chapel on December 2nd and Branch Christmas Party on December 9th!

Ci vediamo presto!

Carmelo Sabatella

Montebello  
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a tutti. Thursday, November 15: General meeting at 6:30pm, St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street in Montebello. We will celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner and everyone will bring their favorite dishes to share. The branch will provide the main dish and drinks.

Congratulations to members who celebrate their birthdays in November. We will have cake after the meeting!

In September we presented a certificate and $50 gift card to Salvatore Sorce, our Treasurer, in recognition for his dedicated service to Branch 111.

Please spread the word to friends, family, and others interested in becoming a part of our branch.

Continued on Page 14

Br. 108 members participating in Back to the 80’s and Holy Family Church Fair events
From the Entire ICF Central Council and Office Staff, We Wish You A Happy Thanksgiving!

Christmas Ads for the Bollettino

Dear Branch President,

As you know, many Individuals, Districts and Branches traditionally place Christmas and New Year’s messages in the December issue of the Bollettino. These can be sent in, already designed and sized, or the text may be provided and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

- 2 1/2” x 2 1/2” (one column square) $25
- 2 1/2” x 5” (vertical or horizontal) $35
- 4” x 5” (horizontal) $50
- 6 1/2” x 5” (horizontal, quarter page) $70

To place a message, please send in your ad by e-mail, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and send your check made out to the I.C.F. (noted Christmas ad), to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
Attn: Bollettino

Please send all ad files electronically to info@icf.org. The deadline is November 10th.

Thank you!
I.C.F. Office
ABRACADABRA

Christmas is Magic!

You Are Cordially Invited To A Magical Celebration...
The 2nd Annual

Thalassemia Christmas Party

When:
Friday, December 7, 2018, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Where:
Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA)
Stauffer Conference Room
4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90027

RSVP:
By November 12th to
Laurice Levine
LLevine430@aol.com, or, 360-860-2023

Please let us know the names of everyone in your group and ages of guests age 18 and younger.
We are sad to report that our beloved Branch 111 member, Carmelo Divicenzo, passed away on October 7 surrounded by family. Carmelo was the father-in-law of Branch 111 President Frank Salomone, and father of Crocetta Salomone, Financial Secretary & Correspondence Secretary. Carmelo was recently diagnosed with Acute Leukemia. He was 81 years old. He was a wonderful man, always smiling and always ready to help his family and friends and he will be greatly missed. Carmelo was survived by his wife, Filomena, son, Mario, and daughters, Crocetta and Salvatrice, and seven grandchildren; Leonardo, Elisa, Sofia, Luca, Rocco, Daniel, and Giuliana. May he Rest in Peace.

Saturday, December 8: Christmas Dinner & Dance. Music by Dino Domino, with Rita & Marim Marino, a Professional Piano Bar, along with our delicious Italian Buffet dinner. Please plan on joining us and invite your family and friends. We pray for Carmelo Divicenzo and Frank Lauro and their families in your prayers. They will be missed!

Happy Veteran’s Day to all who served this great country!

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Our next meeting is on the 14th at which time we will have the nomination of officers. We have several positions to fill. Our next fundraiser is our Christmas Boutique, with Acute Leukemia. He was 81 years old. He was a wonderful man, always smiling and always ready to help his family and friends. Carmelo was survived by his wife, Filomena, son, Mario, and daughters, Crocetta and Salvatrice, and seven grandchildren; Leonardo, Elisa, Sofia, Luca, Rocco, Daniele, and Giuliana. May he Rest in Peace.

Saturday, December 8: Christmas Dinner & Dance. Music by Dino Domino, with Rita & Marim Marino, a Professional Piano Bar, along with our delicious Italian Buffet dinner. Please plan on joining us and invite your family and friends. We pray for Carmelo Divicenzo and Frank Lauro and their families in your prayers. They will be missed!

Happy Veteran’s Day to all who served this great country!

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Arcadia

Holy Angeles, Br. 218

Our next meeting is on the 14th at which time we will have the nomination of officers. We have several positions to fill. Our next fundraiser is our Christmas Boutique, led by Bishop Sartorius. Our Spiritual bouquet and Seminary Burse of $600.00 was presented.

Nov 15: General meeting 7:30pm. Upcoming pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini on Dec 2nd will be discussed. Call Mary Cigliano for reservations (310) 832-0608.

Dec 8: Branch Christmas party at 6pm. Please join us for a delicious dinner and friendship. Members are free, spouses and/or guests are $10.00. Please call Nancy Donato for details (310) 833-2584.

2019 calendars are for sale. $25.00 not only gets you a wonderful calendar but also 365 chances to win money daily! Our branch had a few winners this year! This is also a fundraiser for our branch. Please keep ICF members Giuseppa Pisano and Frank Lauro and their families in your prayers. They will be missed!

Happy Veteran’s Day to all who served this great country!

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

September 16, 2018 found the Branch attending the quarterly 8:30 a.m. Mass. After the Mass, the Branch partook in a Mexican style breakfast at one of the local Cantinas. It is almost laughable that fourteen Italians feasted on Mexican food. But we ate, and we enjoyed the food and the friendship!

At the September meeting, the Branch finally firmed up most of our outstanding plans. Sadly, recruitment was not one...
Freshly-elected 2019 Br. 380 board members, ready for a great year!

With that, we are proud to announce our newly-elected officers for 2019:
- Co-Presidents Jean Bridges, Anne Interrante; Co-1st Vice Presidents Nick Iezza, Remo Iezza; Co-2nd Vice Presidents Joyce Alessandrino, Ryan Interrante; Financial Secretary Bill Metz; Co-Treasurers Claudia Pirozzi, Ken Pirozzi; Recording Secretary Cathie Lawrence; Orator Deacon Dave Lawrence; Co-Sentinels Natalie Alessandrino, Matthew Bridges, Madeline Bruno, Samantha Bruno, Liam Swist; Trustees Annette Bondelli, Marie Chodkowski, Lou Mages.

Our branch will be volunteering at the St. Paschal Baylon Festival again this year on October 19-21. We will be selling sausage and meatball sandwiches, pasta and pizza. We would again like to remind readers that on Sunday November 11th, the Los Angeles Archdiocesan District's Bishop's Day Mass and luncheon will take place at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo.

Upcoming events:
- November 2 (Fri.) - General Meeting
- November 11 (Sun.) - Bishop's Day Mass and Luncheon
- December 2 (Sun.) - Mother Cabrini Annual Pilgrimage
- December 8 (Sat.) - Family Christmas Party

Have a Happy Halloween!
Ryan Interrante
Corresponding Secretary

Thanksgiving is coming…and the turkeys have scattered! But Branch 21 members aren’t chasing after them because they’re poised to celebrate several up-coming events. On November 4th will be our annual Memorial Mass and Breakfast to honor all those loved ones who have passed. Then on November 10th will be the ICF District Meeting hosted by our neighbor Central Coast, followed by lunch at Paine’s Restaurant. Branch 25 was represented by Julie Richards and JoAnn Sullivan, Central Coast First Vice President and Sentinel, respectively, and Rita Dominy, Frances and Sharon Scilacci, and Tom and JoAnn Sullivan. Kudos to Branch 26 for an outstanding Bishop’s Day Program.

Preparations are underway for our annual Polenta Luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The Branch 25 Christmas Party will be held at JM Ranch on Sunday, December 9, 2018. Invitations will be mailed out shortly.

JoAnn Sullivan
Recording Secretary

Hope everyone will have a Blessed Thanksgiving with their families and friends.

September 7-9, 2018: Santa Rosalia – Branch #36 worked the Calamari booth. Liz Grammatico, chairman, thanked all those who volunteered their time, made this a very successful event.

September 23, 2018: Branch #36 hosted Donut Sunday after all the masses at San Carlos Cathedral. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship while enjoying donuts and coffee. Thank you, Antonia Ihnert, chairman and her committee.

September 30, 2018: Several of our mem-

Downey
St. Raymond, Br. 362

As we are approaching Halloween, it is going to be time for our traditional Bingo Luncheon. It will be in November, just in time for the holiday season. We have done well the past few months and are looking forward to our holiday season. We thank you all for your support and hope to continue seeing you at our gatherings.

Thank you and God bless.

Tony Farinella

Thousand Oaks
St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our Oktoberfest and Hallowe’en-themed general meeting on October 5th was a lot of fun! We shared all kinds of wine, had authentic German food catered by Alpine Deli, and everyone voted in a costume contest at the end of the night. During the meeting, Branch member Lou Mages gave an enlightening presentation regarding the current state of politics in Italy. At the meeting we also selected our officers for the new year, and members of all ages stepped up to the plate to fill these positions.
from Massarosa, Italy. Rosella told us how she honored she was to become a member and how happy she was that she could be here in America with us for this special evening. She presented us with some beautiful Italian flags with the I.C.F. emblem on them. Thank you Rosella; we will treasure them always.

Our Charity project for November is our parish’s “Adopt-A-Family” for Christmas. This year we will adopt a family of 6. The family consists of mom and dad in their 30’s and 4 children ages 10 years old to 9 months. Please keep our special family in your prayers.

Happy Birthday to our November babies: Egidio Tonus who has been a member for 40 years and Virginia Frassetto who has been a member for 68 years.

During this season of being thankful I would like to say thank you to all the members of Branch #51. Thank you for all your hard work, patience and generosity throughout the year. I am blest to call you my friends and my wonderful I.C.F. family. And thank you to Ed & Bella Leonard for always being there for us.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Cindy Stefani

Capitola
St. Joseph, Br. 227

In keeping with football season, our October meeting featured pizza, beer and salad. Thanks to Mike Rios for arranging for the food and our bartender Rick Kotila.

The branch voted to donate $250 to St. Vincent de Paul. In addition, members bring non-perishable food items to our monthly meetings. Every Wednesday St. Vincent de Paul volunteers distribute food and food vouchers to the needy. They also give out food baskets on Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. We are happy to help them.

Upcoming meeting dates:
• November 11 - traditional turkey dinner prepared by Vicky Howell and crew.
• December 8 or 9 - Date TBA – Christmas Party.

Upcoming dates for 2019:
• Feb. 9th - We are hosting the District Meeting. We will need cooks, raffle prizes, and workers.
• Feb 23rd - Installation of officers, Sacred Heart Church, Salinas.
• March 8th - Fish Fry begin.

Happy Birthday to our esteemed senior members Ida Lamozzi, Kay Waldvogel and Frank Locatelli who are celebrating birthdays in October and November.

A thought from Peter Kreet, Professor of Philosophy at Boston College: “By the way, if you get mad at your Mac laptop and wonder who designed this demonic device, notice the manufacturer’s icon on top: an apple with a bite out of it.”

Deanna Mauzer, Secretary

Oakland
East Bay District Council

As we enter this busy season of rushing toward the holidays, let’s slow down a little and remember what we have to be thankful for during the past year. We can begin our list with being thankful that we were once again able to donate scholarships to all four levels of students and thank the ICF for recognizing our efforts.

Another thank you goes to the folks who helped make our CC in-service a success, both the presenters and the "cooks." And the race is on... for a very busy time from now until installation.

By the time you read this, we will have had a meeting to get things started for the Crab Feed, Jan. 19th, which is the evening before installation on Jan. 20th. So you can see that this is a very busy time for the district as well as for us individually, and we are and will be most thankful for all who are able to help make these things happen.

Going forward, let’s take a minute or two a day to thank God for our health, our families and friends and for the support of our ICF family during this past year.

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to each and every one of you.

Pat Grasso,
District Secretary

Alameda
Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We welcomed 135 ICF members and friends to our annual Ravioli Dinner on October 6, prepared by chefs Ben Ratto and Rich Kaula. We were visited by members of Birthright of San Lorenzo, a crisis pregnancy center, who were presented with gifts of infant and maternity items as well as monetary donations. We were also joined by officers from other branches in the East Bay District and members of the Saint Philip Neri Class of 1978, celebrating their 40th reunion.

Net proceeds from the dinner were donated to Saint Philip Neri School of Alameda in memory of Dave Rose, our president, who died in June. On display were the plaque proclaiming July 14, 2018, “David Marshall Rose Day” in the City of Alameda and a binder containing letters supporting Dave for the 2008 Saint Pope John Paul XXIII Award.

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 8 in Monsignor O’Brien Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Maria Croft will prepare the dinner of salad, pasta and meatballs and dessert. Santa Claus will visit and distribute gifts to children. Prices: members, $12.00; non-members, $15.00; youths 12 and under (member families), free / (non-member families), $5.00.

For reservations, contact John Zugnoni, john@zugnoni.net, (510) 523-8005 by 9:00 a.m. December 3. Payment in advance by check to ICF Branch 10, sent to Saint Philip Neri Church Office, 3101 Van Buren Street, Alameda, CA 94501.

NOTE: The October Bollettino stated an incorrect date for the Christmas party. Saturday, December 8 is the correct date.

John Zugnoni, Publicity

Oakland
Santa Rita, Br. 40

The election of Branch officers for 2019 was not completed in October due to absence of Branch officers. Election of Branch officers has been moved to the November meeting. All members are welcomed to attend. The 2019 ICF calendars are here and for sale at a cost of $25. For every calendar sold by our branch we keep $5. When you buy this calendar you have a chance to win between $30-$100 every day of the year. And even if you win one day your name goes back into the drawing to win the following day. This year’s calendar theme is “Festas for the Family.” It is filled with wonderful recipes and stories - not just Italian, but Portuguese and
November 2018

Other. To get your calendars and a chance to win, please contact Claire Ramirez at 510-724-9790.

On a side note, the planned Bingo for Nov 10th has been cancelled.

Upcoming events:

- November 5th: Monthly meeting and officer elections, 7pm Sacred Heart Center.
- December 3rd: Monthly meeting, 7pm.

Remember in your prayers the sick and convalescing; especially, Anna Alberti, Rosalie DeSanti, Ernestine Perfeno, Ida Scodella and Esemea Tobacco. God Bless you all. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

Thought: "I can't do everything. But everything I do, I can do with love." 

Ciao,
M.A. Francis and L. Francis

Fremont
St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

The goblins have gone and the nights are now safe for the rest of us mere mortals. Our thoughts turn toward Thanksgiving. Children’s plays recalling the Pilgrims and reconnection with the family set the tone as Thanksgiving ushers in the holiday season with ingrained memories of the aroma of turkey roasting, pies baking and tables overflowing with favorite dishes to sate the hordes of family waiting to devour them. This is a time to remember those who are no longer able to join us.

Branch 215 hosted a successful fall salad luncheon and bingo. Thanks to Nadine Mattier, and her outstanding committee for a job well done. Thanks to Branch 215 members and friends for their generous donation of food, prizes, and time and those who attended this fun event.

Branch 215 was well represented at Corpus Christi’s Ministry Fair on the 20th and 21st.

Recently elected 2019 officers:
President: Fran LaTorre
1st Vice President: James McGee
Recording Secretary: Shirley Delucchi
Financial Secretary/Treasurer: John Delucchi
Orator: Nadine Mattier
1st Trustee: Genevieve Vanek
2nd Trustee: Ralph Marinelli
Sentinel: Joan Lampe

We didn’t play Bocce in October, but this will resume pending weather and court availability at the Fremont Elks club. Contact Jack Navarra or Scott Schiechl for more information.

December 11th - annual Christmas party at Giorgio’s in Milpitas. Contact Fran LaTorre for reservations.

Congratulations to members with birthday, anniversaries, and special events. Our thoughts and prayers to the ill, first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chatelot
Branch 215

Livemore
St. Filomena, Br. 285

All Saints Day, November 1, has passed. So has All Souls Day on November 2. All-Hallow’s-Eve and Halloween are the same day, the night before All Saints Day, but most children have no idea of the why or how Halloween began. It’s a bit of a sad commentary.

Our October meeting was held at St. Michael’s in Livemore. Carolina Cardinali and Virginia Williams were the hosts host for this meeting. It was a wine and hor d’oeuvres event as we were all invited to attend the installation of the new pastor, Father Carl. While we enjoyed our wine and hor d’oeuvres, Phyl and Joe Buon sante gave a presentation on Puglia and their hometown of Mola di Bari, just north of the city of Bari. Joe’s dad was a mason and one of his works includes the central structure in the town piazza. Elaine and my visit to Mola di Bari was more meaningful to us because we knew the Buon sante history. Sharing family history is an important part of ICF.

This month we have our annual Mass of Remembrance and monthly meeting at St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton. We are fortunate to have Lenore Colarusso as the cantor for this solemn event. The Mass enables us to reflect on the fragility of human life, to remember and pray for our deceased loved ones, and to reaffirm our commitment to live as Christ would want us to do. The Mass begins at 6:00 PM followed by our monthly meeting.

Ciao,
Charles

Castro Valley
Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well we did it again - we had a most successful Pasta dinner at the OLG fall festival, thanks to a small group of members who pulled it together. Mike, Lisa and Pat in the kitchen, Dorothy, Annette and Anna in the dining room and best of all our Biscotti makers, Darlene and Juanita. Many thanks for all your help.

This thank you brings to mind a thought at this time of the year as we rush forward to the holidays and the end of the year: slow down, take a breath and think about what you have and what you can share. The talents of those newly-elected officers and the ideas they may bring to the branch is something we can be thankful for having, so let’s support them. The skills of the bakers as they share their recipes for our bake sale to replace the dollars needed to continue supporting our scholarship programs is another.

There are many upcoming activities with both the branch and the district where you may be asked to extend yourself and for this we are thankful for all the help that is available. Let’s be thankful for these things, these people and each other.

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to all Br. #343 members and their families and loved ones.

Pat Grasso,
Branch Secretary

Contra Costa
District Council

By now all branches should have nominated/elected their officers for next year. A list of next year’s District officers will be published in the December Bollettino.

We offer our congratulations and our gratitude to next year’s Branch and District officers and we thank this year’s officers for their work.

Our Night of Recollection took place on Monday, September 10th and was hosted by the Richmond branch. The dinner was delicious and Father Young’s presentation was very inspiring as usual.

The Holiday season has arrived and we will celebrate the birth of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Thanksgiving Day is coming up. It is a time to thank God for His goodness and blessings, a time for families to gather and share their love for one another.

The District Christmas dinner party is scheduled for Monday, December 3rd at 7:00 P.M. at De Vino’s Italian restaurant in Pleasant Hill. I encourage you to attend this event, as it’s always a lot of fun to get together with members of other branches and share in the camaraderie. Please send your RSVP to your branch President by November 30th. Payment for your dinner will be made individually at the restaurant. If you don’t have time, take the time to make the time.

Please become more involved in the District functions, I know you’ll have a good time.

I close with the following wise quote: It’s nice to be important, but it’s more important to be nice.

Joseph (joe@lores33@comcast.net)

Martinez
San Martinos, Br. 13

Branch #13’s annual Family Polenta, Chicken and Sausage Dinner was a great success. Thanks to those members who gave their time, donated baskets, and auction items. Special thanks to the diners, table sponsors, and our young adult servers.

Thanks to Bob and Teresa Poirier for their donation of the “poker chip” electronic drawing prize; a 39” television. Profits earmarked for the Marina Ellis 8th Grade Scholarship, St. Catherine Respect Life Ministry, as well as other programs.

Members Mary Cook and Teresa Poirier were docents for the Martinez Home Tour on October 13. This year, the tour featured St. Catherine of Siena Church and School. They welcomed guests with facts and history of this beautiful church in all its glory to God.

Our new slate of officers elected at the October meeting will be introduced and congratulated shortly. Stay tuned.

Our Holiday Feast is on Friday, November 16th in the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Center Library. Attendees bring all the fixings and sides for a stuffed Thanksgiving meal. We will gather to thank God and feast on delicious food. You are invited and welcome to join us. Please RSVP to 925-229-2665 to let us know what you will prepare to complement the dinner. We close out our year with this feast as Branch #13 does not have a regular meeting in December.

ICF Calendars are available for purchase for $25 each with 365 chances to win. Member Marylynn Rogers was a recent winner! Bring your checkbooks to our next meeting.

Ciao for now.

May all have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Anne Crisp

Crockett
San Carlo, Br. 14

Who doesn’t like barbecue turkey? A full Thanksgiving dinner that Chef Al DiPri ma prepares and only costs $10, sounds like something of which we should all be thankful. Our November 13 meeting begins with Mass at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm, and the meeting at 7:30pm, featuring our Turkey Raffle as well as nominations and election of 2019 officers. Why not think about holding an office this year?

Please bring canned goods to the meeting to share with those less fortunate. Remember that while we take so many things for granted, there are many who are homeless, hungry, and alone. This is a perfect opportunity to share with those in need.

Friday, November 16th is our Pedro and Card Night. It’s always a fun night and will start earlier than usual at 5:00pm.

Anyone interested in the December 7th Thunder Valley Casino Trip should contact Donna, 799-2336. Bus leaves Crockett at 9:00am, there will be a 4-hour stay, and bus will return by 5:00pm. Cost is $30, but you receive $15 free play and a $5 food credit. Sounds like a winner whether the slots pay or not.

November 11th is Veterans' Day; please remember those who have fought for our many freedoms and our liberties.

As you sit around your Thanksgiving table, be thankful for the little ones who are noisy, the adults who talk or argue too much, the football game blaring in the background. This is Thanksgiving! Celebrate, and thank God for your blessings!

Ciao,
Diane Bottini Thomas
Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Members,

Thanks for joining our October meeting held after dinner at the New Mecca restaurant in Pittsburg. Dinner was delicious. We held election of officers for 2019. Thanks to all who stepped up to hold offices.

Watch for your invitation to our November anniversary celebration and meeting. We will share memories of our past while we celebrate our future. We should be proud that our branch was recognized for retaining our membership. Let’s keep it up and let’s gain new members. Don’t forget to invite your families to join us. Tell your friends they are welcome. They do not have to be Italian. They need to be Catholic. Add your grandchildren as well.

There is a family plan.

Please pray for our 2nd VP, Josie Leoniti had a heart attack. She was hospitalized twice over a short period. For many years Josie set up and decorated our meeting room. We thank her for being a devoted member.

You are invited to the District Christmas dinner party. This fun event will take place on Monday December 3 at 7:00PM at De Vino’s Italian restaurant in Pleasant Hill. No payment needed in advance. We will order off the menu and pay by separate checks. Headcount is needed. RSVP to Patty by November 30.

ICF Calendars for 2019 are on sale. Each calendar comes with your ticket for the daily raffle which takes place for 365 days. One of many ICF show cars on display.

The Polenta Dinner, held on October 20, 2018, was a tremendous success. We had well over 100 attendees who helped to make this fundraiser one of our best ever! Thank you to Walter Costa, Toni Reeder, Alicia and Ruben Treviño, Domenica Yonke, Carmen Avila, Carol and Marilyn Darling, and everyone who contributed their time, talents, support and raffle prizes. If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me.

Calendars are for sale. Please see Dee Yonke to place your order. Who knows? You might win!

November 12 meeting is a Mass to remember our deceased members; evening meal of soup and salad to follow: $8.00. Mass is at 6:00 PM. Call Terry Ventin, (510) 524-6093, for reservations. Another bus trip to Cache Creek is in the works for some time in November - more information to follow. Election of new officers will also be held in November. If you are thinking of running for office, now is the time to come forward.

November is election month. So be on the lookout for the evite for details of our November meeting and be sure you attend. Consider running for an officer position as well. More to come in the next months. Planning for the Ladies Tea will start soon. Again, Happy Anniversary. Best wishes in the coming year.

Eileen McGauran

San Bernardino
Upland
St. Joseph, Br. 446

St. Joseph Branch 446 plans many social activities during our meetings. A new annual event was our All American Celebration to honor the many veterans in our branch. Members brought photos or artifacts to the committee heads, chefs, decorators, raffle basket coordinators, bartenders, entertainment chair and dessert coordinator, and clean-up and ticket sales coordinators. None of this would have been possible without all the volunteers... What dedication!

People at the 9th annual "FESTA d’ITALIA" was a glowing success and is growing in popularity every year thanks to the many Branch members who donate their time and effort.

Thank you and God Bless all who worked for its success.

Looking ahead to the October meeting, your thoughts should be tuned to the potential nominees for 2019’s Branch Officers. Not an easy task but one that needs to be done.

Happiness is not having what you want. It is appreciating what you have.

la vita è buona

Thank you and God Bless all who worked for its success.

Looking ahead to the October meeting, your thoughts should be tuned to the potential nominees for 2019’s Branch Officers. Not an easy task but one that needs to be done.

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la vita è buona

Br. 442 Fall Dinner
The December 10 meeting is our Annual Polenta Dinner with a short meeting to follow. Free for all members, $10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th.

Find us and like us on FaceBook - St Raymond154

Brentwood
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432
Ciao all,

Playing to an overflow crowd, it was another successful “FESTA d’ITALIA.” Roadsters, Coupes, Hot Rods and Classic Cars: It doesn’t get any better than Branch 432’s 9th annual "Concourse d’Elegance." A cavalcade of automotive excellence featuring some of America’s greatest automobiles was held September 21st in the IHM Church parking lot and hall. With over 30 cars on display to be viewed and savored, dozens of classic automobile enthusiasts walked up and down the rows enjoying the cars and exchanging stories with the owners.

This festive event didn’t end at the Concourse, dinner was served. Early evening saw a pasta buffet with all the trimmings rolled out for all participants and visitors to enjoy. Coupled with wine or beverage of your choice, the meal was the beginning of a fitting end for a great day, enjoyed by all who attended.

The 9th annual "FESTA d’ITALIA" was a glowing success and is growing in popularity every year thanks to the many Branch members who donate their time and effort.

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la vita è buona

Br. 446’s Amy and Danny Centurioni opening baby presents

San Bernardino
Upland
St. Joseph, Br. 446

St. Joseph Branch 446 plans many social activities during our meetings. A new annual event was our All American Celebration to honor the many veterans in our branch. Members brought photos or arti-

Cardinals in Fall. And you know what that means: Felice Anniversario! We are officially 5 years old. Tanti auguri a noi....

Our Fall anniversary dinner was on October 6, and it was a wonderful and well attended event. It was lovely to see so many ICF members and their families as well as many members of our parish. We were also graced by the clergy of our parish and Fr. Mario Rizzo led us in prayer. The parish gym was decorated beautifully transforming it into a most welcoming dining room. We had a great band, a delicious five course meal of antipasto, salad, pasta, meatballs and sausages, and assorted desserts. And we had many gorgeous raffle baskets. Our donors truly outdid themselves. Of course, it took a lot of hard work from very dedicated people to put this event together. A special thank you to the committee heads, chefs, decorators, raffle basket coordinators, bartenders, entertainment chair and dessert coordinator, and clean-up and ticket sales coordinators. None of this would have been possible without all the volunteers... What dedication
Queen, this year’s Queen, and all of the Marian Societies represented. Branch waterfront and Embarcadero with all the procession from the church to San Diego’s highlighted by an outdoor Mass presided 7th in honor of our Virgin Mother Mary.

Attendees were treated to a pasta, success with great good, fellowship, and September’s General Meeting was a usual fun. Attendees to pass on advice to the new family. all had fun playing games, eating and by First Vice President Jasmine Hite, we Amy and Danny Centurioni to anticipate upcoming birth of our newest ICF mem

Another special event was to celebrate the upcoming birth of our newest ICF member. Our branch had a baby shower for Amy and Danny Centurioni to anticipate the arrival of their son Zachary. Organized by First Vice President Jasmine Hite, we all had fun playing games, eating and passing on advice to the new family.

Branch 230 moves from a busy summer season to a no less busy fall season this month.

September’s General Meeting was a usual success with great good, fellowship, and fun. Attendees were treated to a pasta, salad, and garlic bread dinner with dessert.

October kicked off with Our Lady of the Rosary’s 10th Annual Festa on October 7th in honor of our Virgin Mother Mary. This was again a truly spectacular event, highlighted by an outdoor Mass presided over by Bishop Robert Brom and street procession from the church to San Diego’s waterfront and Embarcadero with all the Marian Societies represented. Branch 230 was honored to be at the head of the procession through the streets of Little Italy and represented well with last year’s Queen, this year’s Queen, and all of the facts and shared stories about their family members that served in the armed forces. Of exceptional note was member Joe Canchola, our branch treasurer. He served in the submarine corps and is still active with many veterans who also served on subma-

Terry and Danny Urain, our vice-presidents, have a long line of family members in the military. Terry grew up in a military family and is very proud of their contributions to our country. Our branch tries to incorporate family heritage information at our meetings as well as having a wonderful social time.

Younger members of the Queen’s Court for Our Lady of the Rosary’s 10th Annual Festa, in which Br. 230 led the procession Queen’s Court and princes and princesses in attendance and looking beautiful. Looking ahead to this month, Branch 230 is excited for the Annual Columbus Day Ball and Baking with Nonna event, the latter of which will treat OLK’s children to a day of baking with the delicious results being donated to the upcoming OLK Annual Spaghetti Dinner to help raise money for the parish.

God Bless
John Sgallo

San Francisco
Maria S.S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members,
Please note the following upcoming event:
Dec. 5th Christmas Party and Raffle, 6:00 pm, Cost $20.00, Chairperson Vic Armando (650) 755-1369. Please bring a raffle prize. Sadly reporting the loss of member George Matranga, a member since 2003. Condolences to his wife, member Esperanza, brother and sister-in-law, members Joseph & Judy and their families.

Happy Thanksgiving to all Branch 1 members!
Ciao,
Tony Morsello

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Mark your calendars for Monday, Dec. 3rd, for our Christmas Luncheon.
We honored Al Oneto for his 100th Birthday at our 47th Anniversary Luncheon on Sept. 14th at the Basque Restaurant. It was nice to see Al and Louise again. Congratulations Al!!
On Friday, Nov. 30th, we will enjoy a hosted lunch at the Basque Restaurant Woolgrowers. After lunch, we will go to Duarte’s Nursery to view their amazing Holiday Poinsettias. Each guest will receive 1 complimentary 6.5 inch poinsettia. This is always a very enjoyable day.
Happy Thanksgiving to all of our members and their families.
To all of our members who have a birthday in November, many more years of much happiness and good health.
Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

San Mateo
Colma
San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello Everyone!
October was a very busy month for our branch and its members. We want to thank those who made the dinner meeting and Pedro Tournament successful. Also, congratulations to our new officers for 2019 and thank you to the officers of 2018.

Branch Schedule:
• Friday, November 9th: Chaplains Night hosted by Branch 213 at SSF Elk’s Club (South San Francisco Elk’s Club, 920 Stonegate Drive, South San Francisco). Call Deborah Rodondi with your reservation and food choice by October 22nd.
• Monday, November 12th: Veteran’s Day – no meeting.
• Monday, November 26th: Dinner meeting - Reservation to Cheryl Simon by the 22nd at (650) 755-0878. LEAVE MESSAGE or email cas94015@yahoo.com with reservation.

Most important, come to the following: DECEMBER 10th, Monday, Christmas Party and 90th Anniversary Celebration hosted by Donna Barnes. Come and help celebrate 90 years of tradition and dedication by members of the branch. Reservations to Donna Barnes by 12/3 at 183 Santa Paula Drive - (650) 991-0178.

Please remember our sick and lonely members in your prayers. November is also the month to remember our loved ones who have gone before us.

N. Thurman

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

We started off our last Pizza dinner and meeting with the reports from our two delegates who attended the Convention. Thanks to Donna Cervelli for hosting our pizza night, and thanks to all those who assisted.

Our November calendar is full with two big events along with our dinner and meeting on November 8, 2018.

November 9: Chaplain’s Night, hosted by Branch 213, St. Augustine, SSF. No host Cocktails: 6:00 p.m., dinner: 7:00 p.m., $40.00: New York steak, baked salmon, chicken medallions, vegetables, dessert wine, and coffee. DEADLINE: October 25. Joyce James, chairperson: (650) 703-3609. Advise M.A. Camacho if you want to attend.

November 24: Pedro Tournament - Our Lady of Angels School Gym. Chairperson: Donene Campaule. Coffee and donuts/Registration: 9:00 a.m. Tournament: 10:00 a.m. promptly. Lunch will follow, $40.00: Pasta, garlic bread, salad, soft drinks, dessert. Tournament only: $25. Lunch only: $15.00. If you must cancel, please find a replacement, as the loss of one player puts three others out of the game.

Please remember many of our members could use extra spiritual help with our prayers.

God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco
St. Augustine, Br. 213

This month’s dinner meeting was hosted by Roberta Franchini, Harold and Virginia Fuentes. We enjoyed a pasta, salad and chicken dinner followed by a special cake made by Mary Rose Favlazur. Thanks to all who prepared the food and set up the meeting hall.

We are looking forward to a District event - Chaplains Night - Friday, November 9th. South San Francisco Elk’s Club. Fr. Rene Ramos will be in attendance. Check with Roberta for reservations.

Prayers for a speedy recovery to our sick members and their families and we welcome back Jackie Smith and wish her a continued recovery.

Thanks to all who financially supported the branch and purchased 2019 Calendars. Congratulations to our newly elected officers - Installation Mass and luncheon is on January 19th. Welcome to our new
Our September dinner meeting was hosted by President Carmel Dufault and her committee of workers. We had a lovely lasagna dinner that all seemed to enjoy. We have been averaging about 30 members at our meetings and I think it’s because all members enjoy the meals and the camaraderie that these times together give us.

On September 22, our branch hosted the semi-annual District Mass at St. Charles. We had a reception after the Mass and had 35 attendees. Again, it was a lovely event enjoyed by all who attended.

Our branch is again selling the ICF calendars. This year’s theme is “Festas around the World.” The cost is $25.00, with $5.00 from each calendar sale staying in our branch. Our branch this year has had many winners. These make great Christmas gifts! See Tom Malaspina at our next meeting and claim your calendar!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 20. This is the meeting to bring all your toys and bears for the less fortunate in our area. These will be taken to St. Francis Center in Redwood City for distribution. Because of your generosity last year, it took three cars to transport all your gifts! It was a wonderful display of kindness.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Virginia Malaspina

San Carlos
St. Charles, Br. 327

Our September dinner meeting was hosted by President Carmel Dufault and her committee of workers. We had a lovely lasagna dinner that all seemed to enjoy. We have been averaging about 30 members at our meetings and I think it’s because all members enjoy the meals and the camaraderie that these times together give us.

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Happy Thanksgiving to all! Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403

On Sunday, September 16, we held a fundraiser Polenta Dinner, which was a successful event thanks to the volunteers from the Millbrae Lion’s Club.

Wednesday, November 1, at 7:00PM, we will be attending a Mass at St. Dunstan remembering the deceased of our Branch. We recently lost a faithful member, Ralph Del Prete and our condolences and sympathy to his family.

At our last meeting, nomination of officers for 2019 was held. They are as follows:

President-Paul Larson, 1st Vice President-Mary Vella Treseler, 2nd Vice President-Anunnzita Pessagno, Recording Secretary-Diana Terlizzi, Corresponding Secretary-Rose Marie Morando, Financial Secretary/Treasurer-Eunice Danli, Orator-Roy Fry, Trustees-Helen Habeeb, Gloria Borruso, Maria Swanson, and Sentinel-Dorothy Semke.

Rose Marie Morando

Marin

Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

Our deepest condolences to the family of Guy Francoz, who recently passed away. He was a huge supporter and officer of the ICF for many years and he will be greatly missed by all of us. Rest in peace, Guy.

Also, our condolences go out to the family of Rosemarie DeMartini, who recently passed away.

Mark your calendar for the following upcoming events:

Just Beatitudes: Saturday, December 8, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Healy Hall - Sr. Margaret Diener, Executive Director of the Santa Sabina Center, will guide us in reflection on the Beatitudes on this Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The morning will end with a simple lunch ($5 contribution). Please RSVP to Anna Biggio at (415) 388-9998 or sonioanmi@gmail.com.

Epiphany Dinner: Saturday, January 5, 2019 - Hosted by the Italian Catholic Federation, open to everyone who is interested in deepening their faith during Advent. Details to follow.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 20.

Please continue your get-well prayers for everyone who isn’t feeling well.

Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary

Novato
Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 332

Our Branch is pleased to announce that we have elected a complete slate of Officers for 2019. Several of this year’s Officers have graciously agreed to continue in their positions. We welcome our two new Board members, Sylvia Reali and Sandy Vasquez to the Board, who will be serving as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

There are not enough ways to say “thank-you” to Diane Gigi and Ginny Perazzo, who are taking a well deserved break from their Board duties. Between the two of them, these dedicated women have devoted over 40 years of service to our Branch. They have managed our finances and sent thousands of pieces of correspondence on our behalf, and are always the first to arrive and the last to leave. From all of us, “Mille grazie.”

Our October Heritage celebration was a wonderful success. Dinner, as always, was delicious, and the spirited heritage dress of so many guests highlighted the evening. Congratulations to our best dressed winners, Lucille Erigero and Dinah Matos, and to all who participated.

Circle December 11th on your calendars for our Christmas celebration and annual gift basket raffle. Remember that Santa will be present for all the children.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

San Jose
Santa Clara Valley District Council

President Bob Bausino started the SCV District meeting from Sunnyvale Br. 47. Thanks to Craig Noah and member hosts. District Mentor Jerry Delfino cited an article in the Bollettino in which roll of members described as “hub of the ICF.” Fr. Aranha was asked to share his homily that gave a brief description of the convention and mentioned Pope John XXIII award recipient Brian Stowe. Father recalled meeting Brian and discussing bullying effects and asked us to speak-out when we detect incidents.

Gennaro Felice, Br. 28 President, said Calendar Sales are going well and branch received Heritage Award for branches over 100 members. Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184 President, said they took 1st place for new members and 2nd place for three new families. Rose Arnaudo resuming at home, Don Arnaudo facing cancer surgery. Jim Jones, Br. 191 President, cited Ric and Kate Shimbshock for helping at convention masses and Mike & Marcie for packing help. Jim asked for prayers for our deacons, priests and bishops. John Gillio, Br. 368 President, enjoyed special tribute to Military during convention.

Giulia Gallego, Br. 435 President, said they won 2nd place for apostolic charity for branches with 50 – 100 members and 3rd place for new members. Jim Falcone, Br. 445 President, was invigorated with new ideas from convention.

Craig Noah gave excellent Heritage talk on Hugo Mancini, long-time member and successful Mancini Motors. Day at The Races: Friday, November 9 at noon. $22.

December District Meeting Br. 445 – Monday, December 10
Mike Nucziate

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Hope all members are staying healthy now and during the holidays.

ICF Br. 5 wishes all members and their family, a blessed, thankful, and joyous holidays during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year.

Dinner/Meeting in November is scheduled for November 15, 2018. Remember to call Mary Ann Ruiz for reservations.

The ICF Calendars for 2019 are now available for $25.00 each. Please see Mary Ann Ruiz for these beautiful calendars.

November is the last meeting to bring baby items and donate money to the Layette fund.

Go shopping and have fun buying baby clothes and blankets etc.

During the month of November, please remember to say prayers All the Souls of ICF members who have died during the year.

Remember to pay your ICF membership dues for 2019. These are due by the end of 2018. Financial Secretary will mail these letters to you. Thanks ahead of time for renewing your memberships.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Ciao,
Marlene J. Rotolo

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

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Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Ciao,
Marlene J. Rotolo

November 15, 2018. Remember to call Mary Ann Ruiz for reservations.
San José
Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

"Don't like that soup? That's fine. We have nine more varieties, no two alike." So said our September hostesses Joanne Opp, Jane Wendler, Anna Greco Gonzalez, and Rose Traina. Thanks to them we also enjoyed wine, appetizers, salads, breads, and desserts. A lovely fall theme including ceramic pumpkins, Halloween figures, and orange and yellow tablecloths spiced up the evening.

Jerry Opp, thank you for accepting your new role as casino bus trip organizer! We know it takes a lot of your time and patience, but we also know the trips provide many people with a fun experience they would not otherwise have. Thank you for continuing the bus trip program, for helping folks have a good time, and for raising money for our branch. The October trip to Black Oak Casino on October 17 will be the last trip until February.

Gus and Mary Mavroudis have wonderful news! Their son John, a San Francisco-based artist, drew Dr. Christine Blasey-Ford, right hand raised, for the cover of the October 15, 2018, issue of Time magazine. They share their joy and pride! The name "Mavroudis" is visible on the lower-right-hand corner of the drawing. Wow!

We are sorry to lose members Laura and Alfonso Carrillo, who have been active in our parish for a long time. We surprised them with a cake and Home Depot gift certificate, which they can use in their move to Clackamas, Oregon. We will miss them!

Blessings during this beautiful season,
Judy Zahn

San José
Santa Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Former President Louise Vento, standing in for Mike Rossi, opened our Octoberfest meeting thanking the Vallorz team for the delicious bratwurst/sauerkraut treat. In her Fall heritage report, Louise presented a short version of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage to the West Indies in 1492. Congratulations to our 2019 officers, who were re-elected: President-Mike Rossi; First Vice President-Marcie Rossi; Second Vice President-Doug Schenk; Secretary-Louise Vento; Financial Secretary-Tina Rossi; Treasurer-Steve Lencioni; Orator-Sister Jane Garrison; Trustees -Susan Br. 391 members visit shrine of St. Paul at Veria, Greece - (1 to r) Mike & Marcie Rossi, Jo Ann Schriro, Fr. George Aranaha, mentor Donna Pfaff, Susan & John Busco, Donna Rossi and Sentinel-Linda Ochino. We welcome Lynda Vallorz as our new Trustee. We continue to thank you, officers, and outgoing Trustee Russ Vento, for your service to our branch.

We also thank Cathy DeMaria, who continues to do a great job in presiding over the nominating and voting process.

Lynda Vallorz and Diana Vallorz, our convention delegates, reported on informative workshops and presentations that they attended.

There are still a number of 2019 ICF Calendars available for sale. Remember some of the proceeds are returned to our branch. Don't forget to come to our next fundraiser - Spaghetti, Meatball, and Sausage dinner, which will be held in November. We ask that more members support this fun event. Upcoming events: Branch #391 meeting - November 6 - we will have a speaker from Catholic Charities; District Day at the Races - November 9; Christmas Party - December 4; and Quarterly Communion - December 9, 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Have a healthy and happy Thanksgiving!
Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale
Resurrection, Br. 408

Thank you to all our generous Fall Blood Donors. Over 30 individuals shared this Gift of Life with others in need. We were able to make a critical input to the Bay Area Blood Supply. Our Final Blood Drive of 2018 will be held in the Farana Center on Saturday 15 December.

Please make an attempt to participate in our St. Francis Cabrini Pilgrimage at St. Francis Cabrini Parish on Sunday 11 November meeting for a Rosary Procession at 10:45 AM followed by a Mass at 11:00 AM.

Thanks to all who attended Bishop's Day at Transfiguration Parish – it was our last meeting with our Good Shepherd Bishop PJ MacGrath. He thanked us for our support over these past 20 years.

Our ICF / Resurrection School Pancake Breakfast was a good success and we raised money for our Scholarships and Rez School Tuition Assistance.

Please plan to attend our Branch Christmas Party on Monday 3 December at 6:00 PM. Please pray for our members – especially for Edith Novak who passed in September and Olive DeFrancisci who has passed in October.

Morgan Hill
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

With summer coming to a close we had our last outdoor dinner in September. This was held at one of our local wineries, Morgan Hill Cellars, owned and operated by the Sampognaro family, Branch #435 members. We enjoyed pulled pork, coleslaw, baked beans and corn pudding prepared by Maryclare Sampognaro and topped it off with a wonderful cake supplied by Denise and Sal Campagna. Right after dinner we had a heritage report from Giovanni Tacci who gave us a lovely history of his family’s move from Italy to the United States with fond memories of her mother and father. Our president, Giulia Gallego, gave us a report on the convention in San Diego and her adventures of being on her own when her companions had a small emergency and had to leave. But she had lots of other company to help her along the way and the way she returned no worse for wear.

Our October dinner will be back inside with a more authentic Italian offering, a polenta dinner prepared by Rich Della

The Br. 408 / Resurrection School Pancake Breakfast was a success, raising money for Scholarships and the School Tuition Assistance program
Maggiore and George Guglielmo. Please keep our ailing members in your prayers. Russ Vento broke his leg while attending the Columbus Day parade in San Francisco. Ciao! Maryclaire Sampognaro

San Jose
Church Of The Transfiguration, Br. 445

Bishop McGrath ICF Mass at Transfiguration Church, San Jose, Br. 445

Santa Rosa
District Council

Greetings from the vineyard where the grape harvest is nearly over. We had two very nice events recently – Day of Recollection and Bishop’s Day. Bishop Vasa told us that the diocese has five studying for the priesthood. Many thanks to all involved in preparing these events.

Lauren has sent out the information for the Annual District Raffle to be held at the Christmas Party on Dec. 2 at #198, St. Eugene’s parish hall. Try and sell as much as you can as this is the district’s big fundraiser. Plan to attend the Party as it is a fun event. Please let #198 know how many are going to attend.

Bob A. has distributed forms for nominations for District President’s Award. We know that there are many deserving people in the district.

Nominations are open for district officers. Please speak to Bob A. or Lauren if you are interested.

District Installation of Officers will occur sometime in January at #209, Sebastopol. We need a date. Please let Carmen know so she can send out letters.

Update - At this point, our house has a roof and we are working on Solar, plumbing and electrical decisions.

One year has gone by since the horrific event of Oct. 9, 2017. Remember all the fire victims in your prayers that they may have the strength to carry on.

Peace and love to all. Pray, comfort and support each other always in this world of seemingly constant turmoil.

CK

Healdsburg
St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

Our 3rd Golf Tournament on October 7 was a great success. The golfers and guests enjoyed the day at Tayman Park. We thank everyone who sponsored, attended and worked the event! Special thanks to John and Janice Torres for chairing this fun event.

Upcoming Events:
- November 6: Regular meeting in the rectory at 5:30 PM. Please come and join us.
- November 10: Polenta Dinner. Doors open at 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. This is our first polenta dinner of the season. Get your tickets early, as it always sells out. Call Mary Madden for tickets: 431-0438. Price $15.00 for members, $20.00 for non-members. Child prices available.
- December 7: Christmas Party. We will have a special guest for the kiddies.

We will be selling raffle tickets for our Nativity Set after all the Masses beginning mid-November. We are also selling the ICF Daily Calendar Raffle. For $25.00, you could win up to $100. The branch keeps $5.00 from each calendar sold. If you would like to be an officer for 2019, please contact President Richard. We are a large, active branch that can only continue with good leadership.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale
St. Peter, Br. 75

Happy Harvest time! Most of the grapes have been harvested in our area, and the colors are just beginning to change.

September was quite a month. We are happy to report that our first Dinner in the Vineyards on September 22nd was a wonderful success! The food, music, and lighting were magical. The weather was perfect. People are already asking us for tickets for next year! The profits from the event will go to buying new chairs for our Parish Hall.

At the Dinner we payed homage to two great people. Ulisses Valdez, the winery owner who made the wine from St. Peter’s grapes, died suddenly on September 12th at the age of 49. We also remembered Joe Dell’Aquila who died suddenly on September 14th. Joe was a very active member of Branch 75. He was our trustee and was always helping out. He will be sorely missed.

Our next monthly meeting is October 18. A busy meeting is planned as we discuss

San Francisco.

Our Christmas Party will follow at the Sandalwood Estates. Marilyn Lombardi and Louise Vicino are the Chairs for this event. We promise to have a great dinner, with a special dessert. Plan to attend, as it will be a great start to the Christmas holiday.

Get well wishes to Bea McQuaid, Margaret Cordrey and Father Culligan. Thinking of you Bruno and glad to hear you are on the way to recovery.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to those celebrating. And of course a Happy Halloween to all.

And remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.
Ciao, Louise Vicino

Sebastopol
St. Sebastian, Br. 209

A special thanks to Roy and Leona Spadoni, who prepared the delicious ham and scalloped potato dinner for our October meeting. We also enjoyed an apple pie donated by Donovan and Yvonne Dorr.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped us to have another successful Polenta and Chicken dinner on October 20th.

Save the date: December 1, 2018 - 52nd Anniversary of Branch 209. Ravioli Dinner.

Newly Elected Officers for 2019:
President: Pam Mc Alvain, 1st Vice-President: Yvonne Dorr, 2nd Vice-President: Roy Spadoni, Recording Secretary: Sharon Vannetti, Financial Secretary: Leona Spadoni, Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti, Trustees: Bud Polley, Bill Segale, Nancy Steadman and Sentinel: Judy Segal. Installation of officers hosted by Sebastopol Branch #209 on January 29, 2019.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers: Marilyn Andrews, Colombini Albinini and Evelyn Reese.

Best wishes to everyone for a Happy Thanksgiving.
Ciao, Sharon Vannetti
Stockton
Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our Bake Sale was very successful thanks to all the hard work our members did baking cakes, cookies, biscotti, breads, pies, etc. You can't make money if you don't have something to sell and our members went all out baking for the sale.

Thanks goes also to those who baked cookies for the St. Stanislaus Fall Festival and all the other help our members provided.

A new branch calendar will be turned in to the parish office this month so that we can secure the hall and church for our events.

Antonella Turchetti will continue as our Heritage Chairperson and Mary Jennings will continue as our Membership Chairperson.

Some of our members were not available for the meeting so our election of officers will be held at the November meeting.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays November 11, 2018 and December 9, 2018 at 8:00am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Refreshments for the November 14, 2018 meeting will be furnished by Nancy Souza.

Our Bank Night winner was Ermelinda Zamora.

Coming up:

- Nov 14 - 7:00pm Meeting 7th & K Street Hall
- Dec 12 - 6:00pm Christmas Party and meeting
- Jan 6 - 1:00pm Stockton District Installation of Officers

Cecelia McGhee

Stockton
St. Luke, Br. 138

Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, with dinner and either a heritage report or a high stakes game of chance. (It costs $2 to buy into the games!)

Branch #138 held its first annual Polenta Feed on November 8. It is hoped that through events like the Polenta Feed, the ICF at St. Luke’s Parish may continue to generate interest and attract more members.

Membership continues to be a top priority and plans are being made to mount a membership drive after the holidays. Branch #138 is encouraging members to wear their ICF name badges at all parish events to be more visible within our community. Events at the parish where ICF had a presence were the annual Fall Festival, the DIVAS (women’s ministry) Ladie’s Night Out, and events where the Knights of Columbus and ICF collaborated to help fundraise at the parish and school.

Manette
Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Congratulations to Past Branch President Frank Re on his election to the ICF Central Council. Members of Branch 139 learned the news as Re and Branch President Elizabeth Demichelis returned from the Grand Convention in San Diego.

Anna Mello reported on preparations for our annual Holiday Biscotti sales. The baking and bagging of the biscotti will be held during Thanksgiving week. This activity has proven to be very popular and financially successful. All ingredients are donated by branch members with the baking labor, as well.

A new sink has been installed in the St. Anthony School cafeteria. It was donated by the branch and Joe Pellegrino and Ed Fichtner were thanked for their help with the project.

Our branch was congratulated at the convention for awarding four college scholarships over the present year. The recipients were Dwight Jackson, son of Lori Pellegrino Jackson (University of Puget Sound); Jordyn Posz, daughter of Richard and Cary Posz (California State University, Stanislaus); and Carly Cunial (California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo) and Emily Cunial (University of California, Santa Barbara), both daughters of Dan and Annie Cunial.

Branch 139 hosted the Stockton District at its October meeting at Cucina Queirolo in Lathrop with a polenta meal prepared by Chef Tony.

Ciao,
Mariano

Tracy
St. Bernard, Br. 390

When the weather feels like fall, we fall back on our best menu of the year - polenta and chicken cacciatore at its finest. Thanks for the best ever dinner served to Branch 390 and their many guests on October 18. We asked for and received so much cooperation from the folks who were in attendance, contributing both desserts and raffle prizes. Thanks to all for the continued support of our event.

Congratulations to Frank Re from our district - he has been elected to Central Council and we are proud to have one of our own district members in a position to take care of business! If you missed it in the Bollettino the contact email for Frank Re is fre@icf.org. Here’s your golden opportunity to help Frank make a difference - he’s open to suggestions and we feel he’s the right man for the job.

Nominations are coming up for the 2019 officers so keep in touch with your branch officers to voice your suggestions and show your interest in the upcoming board member list. We’d like to hear from you.

November dinner meeting will look familiar this year - turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, all the trimmings and pumpkin pie of course, among the other desserts prepared by our diners.

Don’t forget to look for yourself on our website: icfbranch390.org. The new photos include both the annual picnic and the convention held in San Diego.

Ciao for now,
Betty Hollars

Stockton
Presentation, Br. 395

What do you call Pizza and elections? Branch 395’s most recent meeting! What a fun night.

We are excited to announce the 2018-2019 board:
President - Mary Ann Piana Chapman;
1st VP - Marilyn Ramacher;
2nd VP - Bob and Linda Langone;
Recording Secretary - Josephine Weber;
Financial Secretary - Mary Fry;
Treasurer - Geoff Lin-Cerehino;
Orator - Bob Zanoni;
Sentinel - Pat Bertiacchi;
Trustee - Becky Vergano.

This team looks forward to promoting ICF and its values throughout the next year.

Craying Polenta, save the date, our annual Polenta dinner will be Thursday, February 7, 2019.

Alta prossima,
Mary Ann

ICF Branch Expansion: Seven Ways YOU Can Help!

Did you know that the ICF has an expansion team that works to start several new branches each year?

Our emphasis on faith, family and heritage still resonates strongly with many Catholics even now in 2018, 94 years after our founding.

There are seven great ways you can get the ball rolling to help us start a new branch:

1. If your previous pastor has been re-assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
2. If your branch supported a seminarian that is now ordained and assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
3. If you are in a parish that is without ICF, reach out to your pastor about starting one.
4. If you know of a parish nearby that is without ICF, reach out to them about starting one.
5. If you know of a parish that previously had ICF, and would be ideal to re-open the branch, reach out to pastor.
6. If you have friends in a parish without ICF, reach out to them about starting one.
7. Volunteer to be part of an expansion team to get a new branch started.

Contact Mike Rossi, ICF Expansion Committee Chairperson, at mrossi@icf.org for more information.

Thank you!
Join the Hospitalization Plan!
You've heard of the AFLAC duck? Well, we have the ICF Chicken!
Extra money in your pocket when you're hospitalized or have surgery.
We will be holding an Open Enrollment period where ANYONE, regardless of age, can enroll in the plan. From January 1 to December 31, 2019, members in good standing may join.
So remember, when you pay your dues for 2019, add that extra $25 per year for extra peace of mind. See the Hospitalization Plan section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at https://www.icf.org/membership/members/ for more details, or feel free to call the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 with any questions.
After one year the limitation to age 70 will go back into effect, with the exception of NEW incoming members. Brand new members, even if over the age of 70, may enroll and pay the Hospitalization Plan fee at the same time they pay their dues when they join.

Officer Training Available
Attention ICF Officers!
Officer training slides are available on our website for the following positions: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Sentinel and Orator.
See the Officer Training section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at https://www.icf.org/membership/members/ to download the slides.

Are You Fluent in ITALIAN?
Before you answer YES, we may not be asking the question you think we are. Using the letters of the word ITALIAN is a great way to remember how to maintain a path toward a successful, healthy and growing branch:
I Inform yourself. Make sure you know all about the ICF and what makes us special so that you can tell others.
T Transform your branch. Talk to your board about how you can make your branch more welcoming with music, hospitality, kids' areas and decorations.
A Amazing meetings and events. Keep business meetings short, and ensure every interaction with members is amazing with well planned spiritual/social/service programs and great food.
L Leadership growth. Invite others to lead, and mentor them.
I Inform others. Spread the word, and promote your branch in bulletins, newspapers and social media.
A Ask for help. Visit the ICF web site for ideas, speak to ICF officers or members in other branches, work with other ministries in your parish, etc.
N Nurture your membership. Show you care by reaching out if members miss meetings, visiting them if ill, encouraging them to share their talents and become more involved.
So, share the meaning of ITALIAN with your members and officers, and ensure your branch becomes fluent!

Visited the ICF Website Yet?
If you have a computer, tablet or smartphone and haven't had the opportunity to visit the ICF's national website at www.ICF.org, you are missing out!
Here are some of the many things you can do:
• Read current and past issues of the Bollettino newspaper will all pages in full color
• Access materials that you can use at a membership drive
• Read about some creative general meeting theme ideas
• View training modules to learn about ICF officer positions
• Find your nearest ICF branch based on city or zip code
• Download a membership application
• Learn about the ICF's history and organization
• Learn about the ICF's charitable programs and scholarships
• Nominate a candidate for an ICF award
• And much more
Visit today, or have someone show you how!